REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application. Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a). Claims 26-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 26-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph because the Office Action alleges that claims 26-27 fail to comply with the written description.

Applicant has responded by amending claims 26-27.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Rejection Under Salvage, Battle, Brown and Laxman

Claims 1-6, 8-14, 17-23 and 26-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent Application Number 2001/0009014 issued to Savage et al. dated July 19, 2001 in view of U. S. Patent Number 7,257,110 issued to Laxman on August 14, 2007, and further in view of U. S. Patent Number 6,081,592 issued to Battle on June 27, 2000 and U. S. Patent Application Number 2002/0080922 issued to Brown et al. dated June 27, 2002.

Applicant has avoided this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

Applicant's claim 1, as amended, now recites,

"wherein the one or more application server components select the one or more identifiers through employment of one or more methods, and at least one of the one or more methods is a priority selection method."

As stated in prior Office Actions, Savage does **not** teach or suggest a method for selecting the identifier. Also, Battle does **not** teach or suggest this limitation either, because Battle discloses a random selection method as stated in the Office Action mailed July 9, 2008. Thus, Savage and Battle are missing the "priority selection method" elements, as recited in applicant's claim 1.

The Final Office Action has cited Brown only for its teaching of a static selection method. Also, the Final Office Action has cited Laxman only for its teaching of a Bearer

Independent Call Control (BICC) protocol. Thus, the Final Office Action seems to indicate, and applicant agrees, that Brown and Laxman do **not** supply the elements of applicant's claim 1 that were shown hereinabove **not** to be taught by Savage and Battle.

Therefore the proposed combination of Savage, Battle, Brown and Laxman does not teach or suggest all of the limitations in applicant's claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 2-6, 8-14 and 21-27 depend from allowable claim 1, these claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Independent claims 17 and 20 each have a limitation similar to that of independent claim 1, which was shown is not taught by the proposed combination of Savage, Battle, Brown and Laxman. For example, claims 17 and 20 recite, "wherein the one or more application server components select the one or more identifiers through employment of one or more methods, and at least one of the one or more methods is a priority selection method". The proposed combination of Savage, Battle, Brown and Laxman does not teach this limitation for the above-mentioned reasons. Therefore, claims 17 and 20 are likewise allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 18-19 depend from claim 17, these dependent claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Rejection Under Salvage, Battle, Brown, Laxman, Cloutier and Strathmeyer

Claims 7 and 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Savage in view of Laxman, Battle and Brown, and further in view of U. S. Patent Application Number 2004/0015405 issued to Cloutier et al. dated January 22, 2004.

Claims 24-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Savage In view of Laxman, Battle and Brown, and further in view of U. S. Patent Number 7,372,957 issued to Strathmeyer et al. on May 13, 2008.

Applicant respectfully traverses these grounds of rejection.

Claims 7, 15-16 and 24-25 depend from independent claim 1. As noted hereinabove, Savage, Battle, Brown and Laxman do **not** teach or suggest "wherein the one or more application server components select the one or more identifiers through employment of one or more methods, and at least one of the one or more methods is a

priority selection method", as recited in applicant's independent claims 1, 17 and 20. Cloutier and Strathmeyer do **not** teach or suggest the elements either. Thus, claims 7, 15-16 and 24-25 are allowable over the proposed combinations of Savage, Battle, Brown, Laxman, Cloutier and Strathmeyer under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a).
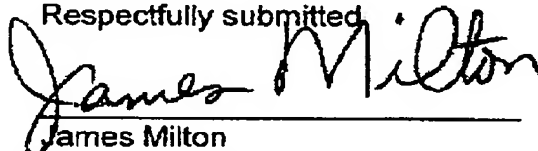
<u>New Claims</u>

New claims 28-29 have been added. Claims 28-29 provide additional limitations directed to the one or more call control protocols. No new matter has been added.

<u>Conclusion</u>

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejections have been overcome and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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